MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether any definite policy is adopted by the Department in introducing new toll-gates or reviving toll-gates that were once abolished?

PRESIDENT: What is the policy adopted by Government in introducing new toll-gates and abolishing existing toll-gates? That is what the member wants to know.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): The policy adopted by the Department in the introduction of toll-gates is to make those using the roads to contribute to the cost of up-keep.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether, in the case of ordinary roads where no bridge or any other convenience beyond the ordinary metalling exists, Government have introduced toll-gates?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): I think this again is far beyond the original question.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the member is aware that recently the Dewan Sahib expressed that the institution of toll-gates is not only a nuisance but ill-suited to the civilized world?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): I would request the member to refer to the Dewan Sahib.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the member is aware that the Dewan Sahib expressed it publicly?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*): I was not there and so did not hear the speech of the Dewan Sahib.

Supply of Bombay Salt.

188. ✻**MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI** (*Quilon I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the Firm that supply Bombay salt for the year 1109;

(*b*) their rate;

(*c*) the rates of the other tenderers;

(*d*) the period for which the contract for the supply of Bombay salt is given to them;

(*e*) whether there have been complaints that the quality of salt supplied was inferior;

(*f*) whether a deputation represented to the Excise Commissioner about the inferior quality of the salt stored at the Munambam Depot;

(*g*) whether the Excise Commissioner enquired into it; and

(*h*) what action he took?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) Messrs Khan Bahadur H. M. D. H. Bhiwandiwala & Co., Bombay.

(*b*) Bh. Rs. 65 per 100 maunds.

(*c*) Bh. Rs. 67-4-0, Bh. Rs. 71-8-0 and Bh. Rs. 70 per 100 maunds.

(*d*) Two years.

(*e*) Yes,

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[Mr. C. O. Madhavan.]

(*f*) Yes.
(*g*) Yes.
(*h*) He inspected the salt and found that the salt supplied and taken delivery of was equal to the sample approved of. But 45 bags of salt in one consignment and 48 bags in another were found to be inferior to the approved sample and action has been taken to destroy the same and to realise the duty from the contractors

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): With regard to the answer to part (*a*), may I know whether there was any other tenderer?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): There was one tenderer, Mr. Latiff Gafur Kazi of Palton Road, Bombay.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the tender was for one year or two years?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Tender was at first invited for supply of salt for one year.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): What is the action taken by the Excise Commissioner against the supply of bad salt?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): According to the terms of the agreement, bad salt is to be destroyed with the sanction of Government. As regards the first consignment of 45 bags, orders have been received and the salt destroyed. As regards the second consignment, Government orders are awaited.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): With regard to the supply of inferior salt, the only punishment is the destruction of the salt. Is that so?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The duty will also be realised.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether that is all the punishment for the supply of inferior salt contemplated in the agreement?

PRESIDENT: Destruction of the stocks supplied and payment of duty as well.

MR K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether, on occasions prior to this, complaints of a similar nature against the same contractor came to the notice of Government?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Not during the current year. They had contract for the supply of Bombay salt during 1108. Then also some salt was found to be inferior and the same was destroyed.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): May I know how many times the Excise Commissioner has inspected the stock?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Last year's rejected stock was also inspected by me, though it is enough if the salt is inspected by the Assistant Excise Commissioner. This year also the

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contractor wrote to me that I must inspect the salt before it is destroyed. So I myself went and I found that the salt was not equal to the approved sample.

MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*); May I know who inspected the salt at first?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The Inspector in charge of the depot.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know the percentage of inferior salt supplied?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Only a very small percentage. This year, out of 1,10,000 maunds of salt supplied, the quantity rejected was only 93 bags.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know whether the same firm was supplying the salt in 1107?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No, it was not that firm.

Supply of Bombay Salt.

189. ❋**MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI** (*Quilon I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the date on which the tenders for the supply of Bombay salt for the year 1109 were first invited;

(*b*) who are the tenderers who had put in their tenders then;

(*c*) whether the Excise Commissioner cancelled those tenders;

(*d*) if so, the reasons for doing so;

(*e*) whether after this the Excise Commissioner invited tenders for two years; and

(*f*) whether, at any time before this, tenders for the supply of Bombay salt were invited for the period of two years at a time?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) As per notice dated the 24th June 1933, published in the Gazette dated the 27th June 1933.

(*b*) (1) Messrs Khan Bahadur H. M. D. H. Bhiwandiwala & Co., Bombay; and (2) Mr. Latif Gafur Kazi, Palton Road, Bombay.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Excise Commissioner did not cancel any of the tenders. The tenders received were not accepted as the rates quoted by the tenderers were very high as compared with the rates for the previous year.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) No.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know, Sir, whether the tender submitted by Messrs Khan Bahadur H. M. D. H. Bhiwandiwala & Co., Bombay, stipulated rate for a period of two years?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Though tenders were invited for one year, they quoted alternative rates for 2 years also.

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